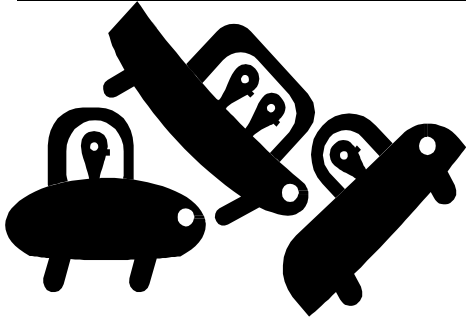


HISLOP HEADLINES

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2011

ROY, UT



ACCIDENT REPORT

Roy, UT: "Was Grace the driver, a passenger, or a pedestrian when the accident occurred?" the insurance adjuster asked Teresa. Hum...

Teresa needed to take Grace to an activity. Lance was gone with the van, the driveway was ice encased, and Peter (the tiny truck) could not back out. The slick, sloped surface combined with his aging tires and light frame made exiting the driveway impossible.

Attempting to be self-sufficient Teresa put Peter into reverse, put Grace in the driver's seat with her foot on the clutch, and put herself against the front bumper. Grace released clutch and Teresa began pushing Peter.

It was all fine and good until Peter's tires caught a patch of bare pavement. He started to shoot out of the driveway. Now, instead of pushing the truck, Teresa was chasing it.

Finding herself in a runaway truck and fearing it would exit into the street where she could be hit by oncoming traffic, Grace jumped out of the truck's cab. She hit a slick patch of ice and went down just as the truck hit the fence and stopped...on top of her right foot.

So, was Grace the driver, a passenger, or a pedestrian? You decide.

UNANSWERED QUESTION



Roy, UT: Chris called and Chick answered the phone. "Did your dad call me?" Chris asked Chick. "I don't know," answered Chick. He set the phone on the desk, found Lance in his bedroom and asked, "Did you call Uncle Chris?" Lance said he had not called his brother. Having found the answer to the question, Chick entered the kitchen and read the newspaper. Nine minutes and 28 seconds later Tanah tried to make a phone call and found Chris on the line, still waiting for Chick to share with him the answer to his question.

SPIDER BESIDE HER

Roy, UT: Teresa found a very effective way to move Tanah very quickly. They were reading scriptures as a family when she casually mentioned to Tanah that there was a spider crawling up her shirt. Teresa's voice was calm and monotone; Tanah's reaction was not. Glancing down, she saw the movement more than the arachnid and leapt screaming from the couch. She continued screaming as she catapulted herself across the room and did not stop screaming for several more minutes. It was a quick way to get her off the couch; it was NOT a quiet way.



BUGGED!

Utah National Forest, UT: Miles is VERY vocally opposed to hiking and is not hesitant to make his views known. Sore legs, stinking trail, stupid bugs...It's all bad. On the way up the mountain, he cursed the spiders for not doing their job. The flies were driving him crazy and it was clearly the spiders' fault. If they were doing their jobs, the flies would not be so out of control.

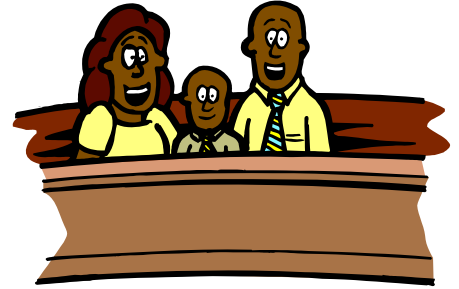
THANKS (!?!?!?!?)

Syracuse, UT: Lance jokes around with his students a lot and has recruited them to help him lose weight. Some of his boys were hassling him when a female student decided they had gone too far; they had crossed the line and needed to be reined in. Sticking up for her teacher, she firmly told her classmates, "Knock it off. Someday you will be old and fat too!"



BAD BET

Issaquah, WA: Never gamble, even on what seems like a sure thing. Teresa found a finger-sized worm in the garden. Knowing that her teenage daughter would not accept the challenge, she told Tanah she would pay her \$10 if she swallowed it. Teresa is now \$10 poorer.

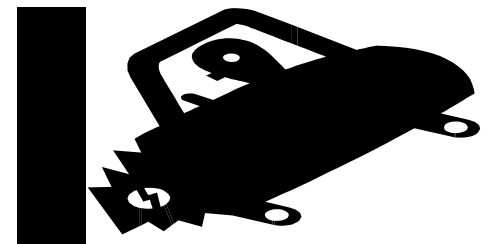


PRESSURE POINT

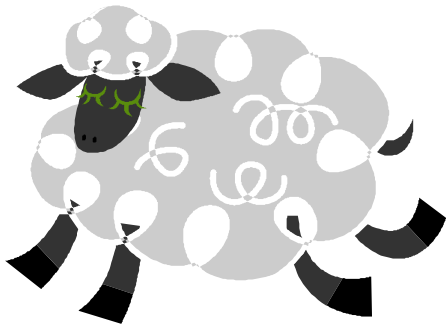
Roy, UT: After the meeting Bill Lloyd asked Lance if he were sick or something. Lance gave him a questioning gaze so Bill explained: "You always put your head on the back of the pew in front of you during church but today you sat up the entire meeting. What is going on?" Lance explained that he was indeed sick; he had a massive head cold and if he put his head down the sinus pressure made him feel like his head would explode. Should one be grateful for head colds? Sinus pressure made Lance remain upright in church much more effectively than wife pressure ever did.

LESSON PLANS

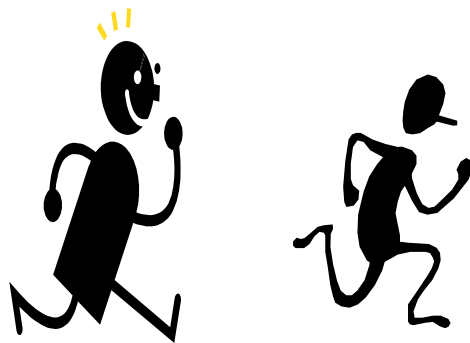
Roy, UT: Lessons do not always go as planned...When Teresa gave Chick his first driving lesson they spent 2 minutes driving and the next twenty minutes changing a tire. Teresa took him to the church parking lot and put him in the driver's seat.. He drove slowly (5 mph) to the end of the lot and began to turn. She could see that he was not turning the steering wheel sharply enough to make the turn so she said, "Turn, turn, TURN!!" Unsure what to do, he let go of the steering wheel but did not take his foot off the gas. The van obediently ran into the high cement curb that borders the lot and landed on the grass. Whomp and WHOOSH! The tire was almost immediately flat so she talked him through changing the tire. And the rest (especially the tire and alignment) is history.



BAAAA...D!

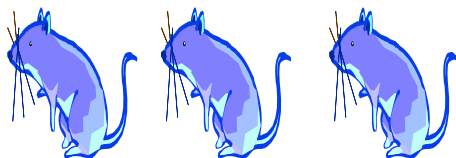


Roy, UT: Sheep.....Whose idea was it to get sheep anyway? Beso, the ewe that had TWO hearty, healthy lambs last year, gave birth to ONE hearty, healthy lamb this year. The absence of a tiny ovum at a sperm party five months earlier cut Hislop profits in half. ARG!!!! In January, December's lamb developed a softball sized lump on her neck. When the vet lanced the growth, fluid shot 18 inches out. Hislops spent \$65 on a vet bill for a lamb that will be worth only \$100 in the fall. Then the ewe that had not yet lambed became lame. For people who think all sheep are lame, she limped when she walked also.



RUNNING TOGETHER...NOT

Roy, UT: Grace and Teresa ran a four mile race together....or rather they started out together. They ran the first mile in 9:58. Teresa told Grace the pace was way too fast and Teresa slowed down. Grace did not. Grace crossed the finish line almost a minute ahead of her mom. Every time Teresa tells her that it is disrespectful to beat her mom, Grace grins.



THREE ON THREE

Roy, UT: Three boys—Brandon, Jake, Miles—and three gerbils—Scatter, Blackie, and Lega. Let the games begin! “Ready, set, go!” At the signal each boy let his gerbil loose in the center of the living room. They gave the rodents a brief head start and then scrambled after them. With Annie (the dog) guarding the room's only doorway (she is not allowed into the living room so she watched anxiously, whining and writhing, at the threshold), the gerbils were confined to the living room however that did not lessen the activity's appeal. Under the couch, behind the piano, through the plants.....each boy enthusiastically pursed his target until all were captured. And then they did it again..... and again... and again. They might be still doing it if concern for her plants' vertical stability and the gerbil's round, healthy bodies (flat, smashed bodied gerbils are not healthy gerbils) had not caused Teresa to end the excitement.

From Lance and Teresa:

“Smile, be happy and enjoy life” is Lance's mantra; Teresa says, “Life is the stories you can tell.” We lived our mantras in 2011, smiling as we happily enjoyed creating stories that we will tell and re-tell for the rest of our lives. The year brought a variety of stories, heart-wrenching to heart-warming. Varied as they are, the stories have a common theme and the theme is that God is good. He has given us each other and has blessed us with four children who bring us intense flashes of joy. Through His son, He has provided a way back to him. God IS good..

DRAGON TALES

Roy, UT: If You Give a Mouse a Cookie is a well-known children's fiction book that describes how a mouse takes over a house. “If You Let a Daughter Have a Lizard” is a less well-known, non-fiction story about how a reptile turned a house upside down.

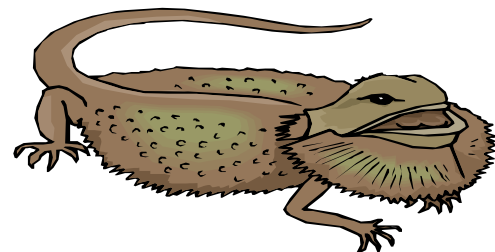
Thanksgiving weekend Grace found a bearded dragon for \$20 and begged permission to buy it. How much trouble could a lizard be? Teresa said yes.

Lance took Grace to collect the reptile. Though the ad said that cage and light were included, Grace was given only the lizard, a heat rock, calcium and some cricket food.

A few days later Lance and Teresa spoke with a woman who has a bearded dragon. Every sentence she spoke caused their hearts to sink lower. The creature needs a day lamp and a night lamp. It must have a UV lamp too. Sometimes the UV part of the lamp goes out but it still shines so one has to watch the creature. If it acts abnormally (what is normal?) then the UV light needs replacing. Feeding them is complicated also. One must experiment to find out what works for each creature. She fed hers chopped kale, peas, carrots, and corn in the morning and crickets, 6-8, at night. And one needs a cricket cage too—otherwise semi-weekly visits the pet store to buy crickets are required. Feeding the crickets is another concern. And the creature must have calcium. Heat rocks may burn it. It has to have a large enough tank that there is a cool end and a warm end. Be sure to have two thermometers to ensure that the cool and warm ends of the tank are within range. Don't forget the humidly gauge.....EEK!

Sadly the tale does not end there. Grace's room was too cold for the lizard. She and Tanah share an attic space; there is no heating vent in the attic and little insulation. In the winter, it is cold, COLD and in the summer it is hot, HOT. There is no place for the creature on the main floor. To put it in the basement by itself would defeat the purpose of having a pet. So the girls moved from their attic room to the sewing room in the basement ; the sewing room moved upstairs. What began as a simple \$20 lizard purchase literally turned the house upside down.

Be careful what you say yes to.



LEASH OR LAMENT!

Roy, UT: “I've told you many, MANY times in the past two years that you have to keep your dog on a leash,” the livid animal control officer told Teresa as she banged her citation book against the palm of her hand. “This is the last time; next time I will give you a ticket,” she promised, her voice shaking with righteous indignation.

Problem: Annie and Teresa love to run leash-less.

Solution: Teresa beat the officer up. When school started, Teresa began running much earlier in the morning. She beats the officer up each morning and is done with her run before the officer gets out of bed. Annie and Teresa continue to run free.

CONTACT US! thislop@msn.com
4875 S 2700 W, Roy, UT 84067
801/775-0073 (home)
Call or text 801/388-9631 (Teresa)
801/644-7567 (Lance)